

*DICKINSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS*  
*REGULAR BOARD MEETING*

Thursday, December 29, 2011 - 6:30 p.m.

Courthouse - Circuit Courtroom

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wender at 6:30 P.M.

2. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said by all.

3. Roll Call was taken by County Clerk Dolly Cook and a quorum was present.

Present: Chairman Wender, Vice Chairman Smith and Commissioners Degenauer Jr., Martin and Stevens.  
(5)

Absent: (0)

Also Present: County Clerk Dolly Cook, Sheriff Scott Celello, Treasurer Lorna Carey, Administrative Assistant Sonya Pugh and Controller Kay Pascoe.

4. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., supported by Commissioner Smith to accept the agenda as written with no additions. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

5. Motion by Commissioner Martin, supported by Commissioner Stevens to approve the following meeting minutes as written: Regular Meeting -  
12/12/11  
Committee of the Whole - 12/12/11  
Finance - 12/15/11

All Ayes, Motion Carried.

6. **COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATION:**

A. Citizens' Time: (Limited to five minutes per person)

Chairman Wender opened the floor to Citizens' Time and there was no participation.

B. Resolutions and Legislation - Commissioner Stevens

1. Motion by Commissioner Stevens, supported by Commissioner Smith to approve Acting pursuant to the authority granted a county under Section 8 of Public Act 152 of 2011, the Dickinson County Board of Commissioners hereby exempts Dickinson County from the requirements of 2011 PA 152 for calendar year 2012. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Degenauer Jr. Aye

Martin Nay

Smith Aye

Stevens Aye

Wender Aye Motion Carried (Needed 2/3 vote)

Commissioner Smith explained this is the opt out of the 80/20 health care option. Commissioner Martin asked if this meant we are opting out for the term of the contract, which is 3 years? Commissioner Degenauer explained the insurance will be looked at each year. Controller Pascoe stated this will have to be done annually.

2. Motion by Commissioner Stevens, supported by Commissioner Smith to approve Resolution No. 2011-5 in support of Senate Bill 789 concerning the manufacturing and marketing of designer and synthetic drugs. All Ayes, Motion Carried.  
Commissioner Wender stated after the last meeting he asked Kay to draft a resolution to be sent to all Representatives and Senators and all local officials and interested parties and he thanked Kay for writing the resolution.

7. **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

A. Finance Committee - Finance Chairman John Degenauer, Jr.

1. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., supported by Commissioner Martin to approve the monthly bills for December in the amount of \$132,364.14. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Martin	Aye	
Smith	Aye	
Stevens	Aye	
Wender	Aye	
Degenauer Jr.	Aye	Motion Carried.

2. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., supported by Commissioner Smith to approve Budget Amendment #3 to the 2011 Budget. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Smith	Aye	
Stevens	Aye	
Wender	Aye	
Degenauer Jr.	Aye	
Martin	Aye	Motion Carried.

Controller Pascoe stated the Jail is a considerable amount due to an error in calculating and distributing the fringe benefit portion of their budget of \$86,000. She stated some grant funded expenditures in Emergency Services and Homeland Security were needed and reimbursed but not in the budget.

3. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., supported by Commissioner Stevens to approve the Dickinson County Travel Reimbursement Policy as recommended by the Finance Committee. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Stevens	Aye	
Wender	Aye	
Degenauer Jr.	Aye	
Martin	Aye	
Smith	Aye	Motion Carried.

Commissioner Martin asked if there was a lodging schedule and what is an acceptable amount? Pascoe stated there has never been a lodging set amount. Commissioner Stevens stated the amounts as follows: Breakfast \$7.25, Lunch \$7.25, and Dinner \$16.50 and mileage is .390/mile for personal vehicle. Commissioner Wender stated anything over 200 miles must be approved by the Board.

4. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., supported by Commissioner Stevens to authorize entering into a one-year agreement with Merit Network, Inc. whereby Dickinson County will become a funded drop such that Merit will make the necessary connections to a County Building at no cost to Dickinson County so that Dickinson County may become part of the Merit Fiber Optic Connectivity network. The first quarterly payment on this contract will not come due until October 1, 2012. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Wender	Aye	
Stevens	Aye	
Smith	Aye	
Martin	Aye	
Degenauer Jr.	Aye	Motion Carried.

Commissioner Wender stated if we do this now, there will be no hook-up charge. Commissioner Stevens asked what the savings will be? Sheriff Celello stated we will save \$20,000 on the Lien T-1 Line. He stated we will also be able to upgrade the phone lines. Pascoe stated we will be able to upgrade our internet and can link with the FOC and the three counties for Circuit Court.

5. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., supported by Commissioner Smith to release the 2011 appropriation to Project Divert in the amount of \$5,000. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Degenauer Jr.,	Aye	
Martin	Aye	
Smith	Aye	
Stevens	Aye	
Wender	Aye	Motion Carried.

6. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., supported by Commissioner Stevens to release the 2012 appropriation to the Menominee Range Historical Foundation in the amount of \$1,500. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Martin	Aye	
Smith	Aye	
Stevens	Aye	
Wender	Aye	
Degenauer Jr.	Aye	Motion Carried.

7. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., supported by Commissioner Stevens to authorize the Chairman to sign a one-year agreement with the Michigan State University Extension for extension services as stipulated in the agreement. All Ayes, Motion Carried.  
 Controller Pascoe explained this is the base assessment that was proposed and it contains one clerical staff, the rent and this is one year, not a five year contract.

- B. A-95 Review - Commissioner Joe Stevens - No Report**
- C. Crystal Lake Center/YMCA - Commissioner Frank Smith - No Report**
- D. Six County Employment Alliance - Commissioner Frank Smith - No Report**
- E. Planning and Zoning Committee - Commissioner Joe Stevens - No Report**
- F. DHS/Community Services Agencies - Commissioner Smith - No Report**
- G. Dickinson-Iron Health Department - Commissioner Smith - No Report**
- H. Northpointe - Commissioner Ann Martin**
  - 1. Northpointe Board meeting minutes of 12/15/11.
- I. Pinecrest - Commissioner John Degenauer, Jr. - No Report**
- J. Equalization Committee - Commissioner John Degenauer Jr., - No Report,**
- K. Building & Supply/Real Estate-Remodeling- Commissioner Smith - No Report**
- L. Public Safety and Judiciary - Commissioner Henry Wender - No Report**
- M. Parks Committee - Commissioner Joe Stevens**

1. Motion by Commissioner Stevens, supported by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., to authorize the Chairman to sign the final documents transferring Hanbury Lake Park to the City of Norway. All Ayes, Motion Carried.  
 Commissioner Stevens stated this is a great day! Commissioner Wender stated the City Manager said some in the City are not happy, but overall is went smoothly.

2. Motion by Commissioner Stevens, supported by Commissioner Smith to authorize Van Oss Forestry Services, LLC to proceed with a timber sale on County owned properties located in Section 25 T41N R28W as set forth in his proposal of December 13, 2011 upon submitting a contract. All Ayes, Motion Carried.  
 Commissioner Wender stated all timber markets are good and if bid in February the prices will be better. Commissioner Stevens stated he likes the way this will be managed because this is a beautiful stand of trees and it will help in future harvests. Commissioner Wender stated he liked the hourly pay better than the percent of total. Commissioner Martin asked if this was the only response? Commissioner Wender stated it was.

- N. Airport Committee - Commissioner Henry Wender - No Report**
- O. Fair Board - Commissioner John Degenauer, Jr.**
  - 1. Fair Board meeting minutes of 10/4 and 11/1/11.  
 Commissioner Degenauer stated he will tell them again that we have to get the minutes faster.
- P. Library Board - Commissioner Ann Martin - No Report**
- Q. Dickinson Partnership/Economic Dev. - Commissioner Joe Stevens - No Report**

**R. Employee Relations Committee - Commissioner Frank Smith**

1. Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., to ratify the Tentative Agreement Between the Dickinson County Board of Commissioners and the Police Officers Labor Council Representing the Command Officers, Corrections Officers Deputies and Dispatchers and the Government Employees Labor Council representing union members formerly served by AFSCME and the UP Labor Union regarding Term of Agreement, Wages and Health Insurance. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Smith	Aye	
Stevens	Aye	
Wender	Aye	
Degenauer Jr.	Aye	
Martin	Nay	Motion Carried.

Commissioner Smith stated they agreed on wages and health insurance. He stated some contracts have minor differences. Commissioner Martin stated for the record it is a 2% wage increase each year and a graduated level of increase with health insurance premiums. She asked that the deductible be explained. Controller Pascoe stated it is a \$2500-\$5000 deductible. She stated the County is funding down to the current level of \$250-500. She stated the liability will only be about 35%. She stated the savings is considerable. She stated there are also co-pays. Commissioner Martin stated she stands alone but feels the State Legislature provided public entities with the means to address healthcare costs and she feels this agreement does not take advantage of this opportunity. Commissioner Smith stated the premium costs went way down when we went to a higher deductible and we are taking advantage of the 80/20 because over a period of three years, we will reach the 20% to be paid by the employee. He stated the employees are paying double what they paid last year for their insurance, which is 10% and the second year will be 15% and the third will be 20%. He stated it would be too much for the employees to go from 4.82% to 20% in one year. Commissioner Martin stated what concerns her is the 2% wage increase plus the County, which is the taxpayer, paying the remaining deductible down to 250 to 500. She stated a wage increase like that plus the health insurance plan is not what we needed to do. Commissioner Degenauer Jr., stated he totally disagreed with Commissioner Martin. He stated their direction was to get to the 80/20 and they accomplished that. He stated our County employees aren't the top wage earners in the county, excluding some of the Elected Officials, and we have to be realistic and allow the people that work for us to be able to live a normal life like everybody else. He stated we can't hit them with a \$1400 insurance premium, that is not fair either. He stated we will get there and he feels they did an outstanding job with the bargaining units. He stated they have a burden to pay this year and we will get to the 20%. Commissioner Wender stated a 2% increase may seem high, but when you look at the premium increase it doesn't look high. Commissioner Smith stated the Consumer Price Index for urban wage earners is at a 3.9% increase from one year ago. Commissioner Martin stated you get elected by the voters to try and control costs and she stated this was an opportunity and she stated we did not meet the opportunity. She stated she went for milk and butter at the grocery store and it cost \$8.00. Commissioner Stevens stated what contract is perfect? He stated we came to the middle. He stated there were many meetings and Commissioners Smith and Degenauer Jr, came out with the best deal they could get. He stated it wasn't easy. He stated it is a pretty good contract for both sides.

2. Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., to ratify the Tentative Agreement Between the Dickinson County Board of Commissioners and the Police Officers Labor Council Representing the Command Officers on contract issues other than wages and health insurance. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Martin	Nay	
Smith	Aye	
Stevens	Aye	
Wender	Aye	
Degenauer Jr.	Aye	Motion Carried.

Commissioner Martin stated this is one of the most important things we have done. She asked is this on-call pay a new item in the contract? Pascoe stated yes it is. Commissioner Martin stated this is with the 2% wage increase and the healthcare package? Pascoe stated yes. Commissioner Smith stated they gave up comp-time from 480 to 240. Commissioner Stevens stated this was one of their goals to reduce comp time and they did that.

3. Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., to ratify the Tentative

Agreement Between the Dickinson County Board of Commissioners and the Police Officers Labor Council Representing the Road Patrol and Dispatch on contract issues other than wages and health insurance. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Degenauer Jr.	Aye		
Martin		Nay	
Smith	Aye		
Stevens	Aye		
Wender		Aye	Motion Carried.

Commissioner Martin stated in addition to the 2% wage increase and the Health Insurance was there an increase of shift premium and one more personal day? Pascoe stated yes. Commissioner Degenauer stated they decreased the comp time.

4. Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., to ratify the Tentative Agreement Between the Dickinson County Board of Commissioners and the Police Officers Labor Council Representing the Corrections Officers on contract issues other than wages and health insurance. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Smith	Aye		
Stevens	Aye		
Wender	Aye		
Degenauer Jr.	Aye		
Martin		Nay	Motion Carried

Commissioner Martin asked if there was an increase in shift premiums and an increase in personal days and can they be accumulated or compensated for? Pascoe stated yes there was an increase in shift premiums and no they cannot accumulate or get compensated for personal days, they must use them or lose them. Pascoe also stated the comp time was decreased from 480 to 120.

5. Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., to ratify the Tentative Agreement Between the Dickinson County Board of Commissioners and the Government Employees Labor Council representing union members formerly served by AFSCME and the UP Labor Union on contract issues other than wages and health insurance. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Martin		Nay	
Smith	Aye		
Stevens	Aye		
Wender	Aye		
Degenauer Jr.		Aye	Motion Carried.

Commissioner Martin stated on call pay increase of 25% along with the 2% wage increase and health insurance but there is a decrease from 240 to 80 hours of comp time.

6. Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., to approve the salary structure and health insurance rates as described in the Tentative Agreement Regarding Wages and Health Insurance for the exempt staff with the stipulation that elected officials and their successors are to be bound by the starting rate and salary progressions contained therein as long as this is in conformity with Michigan law. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Smith	Aye		
Stevens	Aye		
Wender	Aye		
Degenauer Jr.	Aye		
Martin		Nay	Motion Carried

Commissioner Martin asked if this includes a 2% increase and healthcare package? Pascoe stated yes.

7. Moved by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., to approve the request of the County Treasurer to fill a full-time position due to a retirement. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

Treasurer Carey stated Chris Saxon retired after 23 years. She stated it is very important that we replace her. She stated she will advertise within for 10 days and she will advertise in the Saturday Paper. Commissioner Martin asked if she did the hiring. She stated she would ask Dolly or Kay if she needed help. She stated it is her choice as to who to hire. Commissioner Stevens asked what the qualifications were? She stated it is an entry level position but

she would like someone who was familiar with taxes and legal descriptions.

**S. Dickinson County Hospital Committee - Commissioner Joe Stevens - No Report**

**T. Dickinson County Road Commission - Commissioner Henry Wender**

1. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., supported by Commissioner Stevens to approve a Resolution authorizing the County Road Commission to borrow funds not to exceed \$300,000. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Wender           Aye

Stevens         Aye

Smith                 Aye

Martin                Aye

Degenauer Jr.                   Aye                   Motion Carried.

2. Road Commission meeting minutes of 12/14

**U. Construction Code Commission - Commissioner John Degenauer, Jr. - No Report**

**V Bay West Advisory Committee - Ann Martin - No Report**

8. Citizens' Time: (Limited to five minutes per person):

Chairman Wender opened the floor for Citizens' Time and there was no participation.

9. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS & OLD BUSINESS:** - Commissioner Stevens - None

10. **PETITIONS AND NEW BUSINESS:** - Commissioner Stevens

1. The Organizational Meeting will be held Tuesday January 3, 2012 at 4:00 P.M.

2. County Clerk Dolly Cook gave the Oath of Office to all Commissioners for the year 2012.

11. Motion by Commissioner Martin, supported by Commissioner Smith to accept Committee Reports and Correspondence and Place on File. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

12. Controller's Report.

Controller Pascoe stated this has been a very good and productive year and she wished everyone a Happy New Year!

13 Commissioners' Personal Privilege.

Commissioner Stevens wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Commissioner Wender stated he received a letter stating Summit Lake in Dickinson County is now called Spirit Lake.

14. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., supported by Commissioner Smith to adjourn, Subject to Call of Chairman at 7:20 P.M.

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Henry Wender, Chairman

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Dolly L. Cook, County Clerk



